

after her to the English colony. The fact that no ship had visited this portion of the Indian Ocean meant that the *Unicorn* had foundered in the dangerous seas that lie between Australia and Africa before she had reached her first port of call, Cape Town ; it meant, too, that the existence of the island was still unknown, and would remain unknown, unless the chances of navigation brought some other ship into these remote seas which, at this period, lay within none of the maritime routes. During the first half of the dry season neither M. Zermatt nor Mr. Wolston thought of leaving Rock Castle. As a rule they spent the finest part of the year at Falconhurst, reserving a week each for the farms at Wood Grange, Sugar-cane Grove, Prospect Hill, and the hermitage at Eberfurt. On this occasion they limited themselves to the brief visits necessitated by their duty to the animals. They made no attempt to explore the other portions of the island outside the district of the Promised Land. Jack contented himself with hunting in the immediate neighbourhood of Rock Castle, leaving Whirlwind and Storm and Grumbler idle.

- Various works which Mr, Wolston had
planned to
do, to which his engineering instinct
had moved
him, were left
unattempted.

What was the use ? In those four
little words
was summed up a volume of
despondency.

So when they came to celebrate the
festival of